

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SG2005/000063

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. 7: A61B 5/103 A61B 1/00 A61M 25/00 G01L 1/24 G01L 1/10

10/590944

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 DWPI JAPIO USPTO: A61B A61F A61M medical patient surgery force friction strain stress resist load probe cannula catheter scope handpiece
 elongate device operate direct insert slide displace move travel motion obstruct impeded resist deflected block hinder bend sense meter transduce
 gauge

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4366810 A (SLANETZ) 4 January 1983 Figures, column 2 lines 35 to 64, column 5 line 18 to column 6 line 6, column 6 lines 42 to 63.	1-36
X	US 4873990 A (HOLMES et al) 17 October 1989 Column 4 lines 15 to 23, figure 1, claims	1-23
X	JP 6-190050 A (MITSUBISHI CABLE IND. LTD.) 12 July 1994 Abstract and figures	16-36

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C See patent family annex

* "A" Special categories of cited documents: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
12 May 2005Date of mailing of the international search report
20 MAY 2005Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU
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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

See extra sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/SG2005/000063

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member					
US	4366810	US	4469091				
US	4873990						
JP	6190050						
US	5339799	DE	4213426	JP	4324409	JP	5038327
		JP	5076482				
WO	1997010746	AU	69934/96	EP	0862380	US	6117091
JP	9192230						
WO	9933392						
US	5957833	US	5728044				
WO	2002007617	AU	77081/01	EP	1303220	US	6494882
		US	2002116022				
US	6612992						
WO	2005011511						
DE	10303270	WO	2004067053				

Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.

END OF ANNEX